

Message Text

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42

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-13 ISO-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 DRC-01

SR-02 ORM-03 /159 W

----- 062227

R 111600Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 695

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

UEHTP/AMEMBASSY TAIPEI 211

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USLO PEKING

USMISSION GENEVA

USUN NEW YORK 1692

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL MADRAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 9464

E.O. 11652: GDS

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PAGE 02 ROME 09464 111700Z

TAGS: PFOR IN CH XT IT

SUBJECT: DALAI LAMA VISIT TO ITALY

REF: NEW DELHI 10379

1. FONOFF HAS CONFIRMED REFTEL REPORT AHT DALAI LAMA SCHEDULED TO VISIT ROME SEPTEMBER 27 TO OCTOBER 1 ALTHOUGH POSSIBILITY EXISTS HE MAY DEPART EARLY ON 29TH. FONOFF SOURCE SAID THAT STOPOVER HERE SHOULD PROPERLY BE CHARACTERIZED AS VISIT TO VATICAN AS GOI WILL TAKE CARE TO KEEP DALAI LAMA AT ARM'S LENGTH AND SEEK ONLY TO ASSURE HIS PERSONAL SECURITY.

2. ACCORDING SOURCE, SUBJECT OF DALAI LAMA'S VISIT TO EUROPE WAS DISCUSSED WITHIN EC WITH ALMOST UNANIMOUS VIEW EMERGING THAT VISIT IS UNWELCOME. HOWEVER, EC REPS RECOGNIZED THAT, AS DEMOCRATIC COUNTRIES, THEY WOULD FIND IT DIFFICULT TO REFUSE VISA FOR PRIVATE VISIT. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS REASONING, ITALIANS, WHO HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED FORMAL VISA APPLICATION, ARE PREPARED TO ADMIT DALAI LAMA ON CONDITION HE AGREES TO FORESWEAR ANY SORT OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY.

3. CHINESE EMBASSY OFFICIALS HAVE INTERVENED HERE AS ELSEWHERE IN EFFORT TO FORESTALL VISIT BUT HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT FONOFF'S HANDS TIED BY FACT THAT VATICAN HAS AGREED TO PAPAL AUDIENCE WHICH OBLIGES FONOFF TO ISSUE VISA. HOWEVER, FONOFF HAS ASSURED CHINESE THAT DALAI LAMA WILL BE OFFERED NO HOSPITALITY BY GOI AND WILL BE PRECLUDED FROM POLITICAL ACTIVITIES. VOLPE

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